

# DOLL TALK

FOR . . . .  
COLLECTORS

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## Current, But Collection Class

Every annual toy fair displays vast variations to standard models. For dolls there are wigs that can be beautied up with shampoo, waves and tints, voices that speak foreign tongues and say prayers, dolls with intriguing names and pampered personalities, elegant costumes and definitely, many in high price — for toy — brackets. Once in a while Kimport considers the idea of offering you some very special new model, and now at a leisurely last, here are two. They are Sara Lee Creech's Negro child dolls, the first such little characters to be made in lovable, complimentary "indestructible" style, and the other an import line of irresistibles created in exact likeness of famed Berta Hummels' adorable child figurines.

Sara Lee's Negro play dolls have had amazing publicity. Feature story in "Life," full page in "St. Louis Post-Dispatch" of Sunday, Nov. 11, 1951, and a sheet compiled by the manufacturing company are here before me. They bulge with social significance and brave words — "inter-racial council," "anthropologically correct," "consultant in human relations" and "Little Ambassadors of Peace." Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt took over the assembling of a panel of distinguished men and women to act as Color Jury to determine that pre-production phase. Oh, there was "Much Ado" but NOT "About Nothing!"



It has been so many years since I was brash and young, that you will pardon my gentler and perhaps more loving feeling toward the sweet brown baby doll. To a grandmother's touch, the smooth, soft, sturdy little body is cuddly, her sleeping, pansy-brown eyes so lifelike, and there's a wistful pose one can't deny when this dewey fresh tot holds out her chubby brown arms to be taken. I approve of the starchy white clothes, all good quality, and of the fact that no feature is caricatured. But to my generation, "Mammy" was the most comfortable and comforting word in the language, and "pickaninny," one of the gayest, most entrancing. They are now terms taboo to Sponsored Boards and

Councils, but still these titles of affection are deep ingrained in many a considerate heart, a heart that honors each individual for his own worth without regard to Race.

We're proud to offer beautifully dressed "baby tot in the prescribed brown of "Vinylite," which feels like heavy rubber. Her features are definitely negroid.

Of course white children are fascinated by this bright, snuggly infant; and we think she'll belong in lots of collections. No. 110, \$7.95 postpaid. We will include a copy of that informative sheet of background facts with each order.

Before launching into a plea for adoption of the Hummel refugees, it would be in order to conjure up a new vocabulary of adjectives. If you were one who knew her delightful pictures and ceramics of yesteryear the cards that bore Berta Hummel's signature, you'll have some adjectives yourself. Appealing, lifelike, lovable, her utterly distinctive tots always had such cuddly child bodies, such wide-eyed, wistful charm that it's a wonder they had not been translated into real doll form before this. We selected the pair pictured "Bertl," with blowing bangs and pert little braids, "Wanderbub," with many belongings, as being the dearest ones to bring you. Their originator's history is briefed on their Kimport pedigree page. The material of which they are made looks like matt finish pottery or buff tint bisque; it actually is very heavy rubber. Costumes are delightfully "Old



Country," well made, good materials all removable with buttons and snaps, and under those big brown "grow-into" shoes are perfectly modeled right size feet—I unlaced an oxford and looked! Bertl's basket is tinted chip straw, Bubbie's bowler, bag and 'berella are felt, an' there is a watch in his pocket. Oh, please pass the adjectives! 10½ inches tall, No. 615 "Wanderbub," No. 615A, "Bertl," \$13.50 each.

### FOLLOW THE GLEAM

Wonder if you share a cherished opinion of mine that the most satisfying attitude a person can have is pride and belief in one's self? I even think it's artistic to have your home and yes, your clothes sort of reflect and harmonize with your own personality. Far be this from suggesting a clutter of introspection; it's meant as more of a hint to follow an impulse. People who have hobbies do this.

You too will enjoy the spirit of this excerpt from a Doll Talk subscriber who writes: "I wonder if you would do something for me? I have decided to increase my collection of Negro dolls, and do some research along that line. Can you suggest any source material? What antique Negro dolls do you have for sale? I am not interested in caricatures or stereotypes as I am an American Negro whose father was an artist in Kansas City, Mo., and I was taught to appreciate and be proud of the beauty produced by, and about, my race.

"Do you have any of the old 'Bru' or 'Jumeau' Negro dolls? I am very proud of one doll in my collection. It is a beautiful brown bisque doll, thirty-six inches tall, made in 1906 by Simon-Halbig Company. I won it when a little girl in Topeka, Kansas, in a financial effort given for one of the churches there, and she has survived the years, unmarred in any way."

### —MOUTHS OF BABES

Mrs. A. P. Wyman writes that her purchases will be small until graduation time is over. Yes, daughter is finishing college; mother still cherishes Doll Talk and especially her matched pairs of foreign dolls.

"The other day," Mrs. Wyman writes, "I was having a longtime friend out and suggested to her young granddaughter that she come along too, to — you know what! The youngster was courteous concerning the invitation all right but she did confide, MY grandmother doesn't play with dolls!"

### SHOWN "FOR FREE"

Doll exhibits, either temporary or permanent, always maintain an unbelievable degree of spectator interest. The 2500 doll group belonging to the Wenham (Mass.) Historical Association was recalled to our attention recently by a clipping service notation.

Originally known as "The International Doll Collection" the dolls were owned by Mrs. Elizabeth Horton and shown in many countries. Proceeds from exhibits were always donated to charity. Since the collection first came to Wenham, dozens of new dolls have been added, including some formerly owned by children of royal families.

To quote from the article, "One of the more interesting dolls is the Thousandth Doll. This doll was made in our own United States by a southern woman who, left penniless after the Civil War, made dolls to earn money to send her son through college. It got its name because it was actually the 1000th doll made by this woman.

Another unusual one is the Doll of Tags. "This doll has traveled around the world and everywhere it went a souvenir tag of the city and country visited was placed on her. The original doll and her original tags, which proudly attest that she is a much-traveled "gal," are on display in the museum."

"The dolls of this collection are broken down into eight different categories: cults, different modes of life, development of the play doll as a toy, character, "whimsies" (dolls made of various materials such as nuts and shells), puppets and marionettes, and doll houses and doll furniture."

The collection is open to the public free of charge.

# LATE ARRIVALS

In the old days foreign sources could be established with fair assurance that dolls selected would be available for subsequent re-orders. As buying became more of a touch and go affair we did purchase quite sizeable stocks of favorite numbers, amongst which were Matreshkas.



Honestly, our big packing cases of these brightly enameled sets of nested dolls looked ample for years to come. As a collector item, as a small gift (Easter, for instance) for kindergartens and for primary Sunday School classes—their popularity is hard to over-estimate. Many were worn out in the best of causes—our stock melted quickly away.

Today we can offer a few hundred from old imported stock located on the West Coast. They are shiney bright, perfect, and each stamped "Made in the Soviet

Union." Two sizes only, 4 inch set containing three graduating sizes is No. 940B at \$1.25, while the 5½ inch size with eight nested dolls is \$2.85.

What with our front page story going all out on new additions, and the back cover heralding another late one, you might think nothing would be left for here. But, ah, you can't know how many enchanting packages come our way! For instance, a package from Ada Odenrider will set my fingers into such a tizzy that they fairly fumble its wrappings. Talented Mrs. O. had a bout with arthritis which did things to her creative fingers for quite a while, but willpower, imagination and luck hovered over her so she did work up another few dozen of that fabulous little "Mahatma" with a snapdragon pod for the head. They're amazing! Some are seated cross-legged this time, others "orating" like the cut.

Should you be one who objects to calling this caricature of a great leader "Ghandi," he could be any vociferous gentleman of beige complexion — or Mrs. Odenrider did include only one dozen round mouthed cowboys of same material, each with his guitar in hand. Standing height is 3 inches, each doll on an A.B.O. initialed base.  
 No. 34B—"Mahatma" ..... \$2.00  
 No. 34C—"Wide-Open-Prairie Thrush" ..... \$2.50





Remember Berta of Buckeburg? She was another like the two we've just talked about that sold out in a hurry. She should have too—cunning little jointed import in peasant dress—price 85¢! A repeat shipment is in, and with be-ribboned Berta came an order of like dolly, Gretel, but in Wendish dress. She wears the huge white headdress of the old Spreewald area, pretty little shawl, and of course, the traditional apron. These German imports are 4 inches tall, jointed at hips and shoulders, made of pink tint composition, similar in appearance to bisque.

No. 610—Berta ..... 85  
No. 610S—Gretel ..... 85

We can only pay postage on orders over \$1.00, so if ordering one alone, please allow \$1.00.

For our last one here this time, we'd like to draw attention to a bizarre odd-material fellow who was made 'way down in Africa. That's the Zulu Warrior, fashioned of strange cones and pods or nuts, combined with fur and python skin. From the look of that b-i-g, round, open mouth, looks like he might be bragging—"I'm a WOW!"

Exceptionally well made and certainly different. Base and boy, he stands 5 inches tall. No. 107W, \$2.50.

### APPRECIATION

News that Mrs. Hazel Erickson had passed away, brought such a sweet letter from Elizabeth Gunter. We print it in part, not only as a tribute to the creator of our "Lobster Witch", but also in appreciation of other creative artists who have been intrigued into the doll field.

"Considering all the assistance I get from you, you are most welcome to print any little "assists" I might contribute. The news about Mrs. Erickson is indeed sad. I always feel as though the doll artists of Kimport were personal friends since they contribute directly to my collection, a thing most dear to my heart. Through their gift for making collectors happy they are certainly unmet friends and I feel sad indeed to lose one of them."

## WHERE NEXT?

Mrs. F. S. Glendening (Pennsylvania) might stand as a sort of symbol to all of us who treasure foreign dolls and love to seek them out in far, exotic places. Wanderlust runs in our veins. We will store away money in anticipation, plunk it down gaily with a travel bureau, thrill every hour of the extravagance of vacation, then snugly reminisce and rest a few short months until the cycle starts again. And if there be a trove of worthy dolls to love, honor and display, ah me, how much worth while the whole adventure's been!

At the Birthday Party of Philadelphia Doll Club, Mrs. Glendening was the featured speaker, sharing doll news of her most recent trip. Some of this data she generously relayed on to us, which we in turn will share. Here are some quotes:

"We found dolls very scarce and poor on this South American trip. I didn't get a thing from Venezuela this time, although when we were in Caracas back in 1934, I found a good little six inch stuffed Bandillero whose features are made by a few well spaced stitches here and there.

"In Barranquilla, Colombia, we had an especially good guide who understood we were not looking for play dolls. He took us to a shop where I purchased a pair of black dancers, with maracas in their hands, for about \$6.00. In Barranquilla I also found an interesting Indian doll whose expressive face appears to be clay well modeled and quite lined. She is seated, dressed in figured cotton and a straw hat. Coming out from under the hat and hanging about

to her waist is a piece of black material like a nun's veil. She has a spindle in one hand and cotton in the other; price around \$6.00.

"When we were in Honolulu two years ago, I again had a difficult time finding collector type dolls. In a place where they make so much of King Kahmeameha, I had thought they would at least reproduce him! I met the very lovely Thelma Taylor who makes dolls for you; spent a pleasant hour at her home where I bought one of her dolls."

The Doll Talk subscription of Marion Glendening dates back into the thirties, and she writes—"Don't ever let it expire." Oh, yes, she has had dolls too from Kimport, but not so many as some of you who shop at home instead of Timbuctoo. It's true that we've had many foreign sources who sent all their output to Kimport. Other times we've had selection from a dozen sources and chosen what was definitely best. But here may lurk the least suspicion of sour grapes, for I'm a member of that sisterhood who'll hear a faint train whistle in the night, and start imagining all sorts of pleasant places, peoples, dolls that lie beyond the horizon!

## THEY MOVE

Information, as well as questions, has a way of stacking up on my big desk. Many times we shuttle these fragments of doll lore in through Doll Talk stories or "Correspondence Clips," knowing how precious they are to collectors.

With a Valentine order from Beneta McClure came two descriptions that will fit in with

information on mechanicals. Yes, thanks, her husband's Valentine check came along for a Kimport package and here are the quotes:

"Mother recently brought from New York a most interesting doll. I was overjoyed that she would consider such a gift, as you know folks who do not collect sometimes act like we who do are 'missing some buttons'!"

"It is a little, jointed bisque with long blonde braids. She is fitted into a gold carriage-like contraption which looks much like a child's walker; four wheels and a rod which go through the doll's body. As you pull it along, the motion of the carriage causes the doll to walk. I haven't been able to find any like her in any of my doll books. The man said he's just brought her back from Europe.

"In January Doll Talk I was greatly interested in the bisque on the music box. My grandmother had one which was most similar only hers was a boy who shook his tambourine. This was given to me, but when we moved some years ago, it disappeared bodily. He was dressed like a matador with light blue satin knee breeches."

### FOR NORMALCY

Every person's life is a story. We can't begin to know the (modern) frustrations or the old time griefs that shape the lives of our neighbors, but certain it is that a hobby, an outside interest, is wholesome as fresh air to any and all.

Take Mrs. Olive Plummer, for instance. We have known her for ten years through Kimport. She collects foreign and some American type dolls. But the other day

she sent a little personal letter for better acquaintance, which said: "You probably have customers in nearly every sort of business, but I don't believe you have another in our type of work. It is very difficult and confining, but my husband and I find it much worthwhile and extremely interesting." There were a few enclosures telling how they had come to turn their big home and tree shaded lawns into its present state licensed use. The letterhead reads: "Plummer Home for Children, Pre-School Mental Defectives, Including Mongoloids and Cretin Types."

This was followed by credentials and association memberships, but can't you understand how such a fine and energetic woman would truly need a hobby—foreign dolls—for sheer release from all the sad, unsolvable problems of her day?

### TO MY FOREIGN DOLLS

I always dreamed that I should see  
Those far off lands across the sea;  
The storied hills of ancient Rome  
Across the sands of Araby.

That I should hear a breath of  
song

From gondoliers who glided on  
Past shadowy, rose-hung balconies.  
And hear the winds harp in the  
trees

As sweet as a distant temple gong.

I may never see those lovely lands,  
Where sunset seas have coral  
strands

The years have flown, my feet are  
slow,  
Only in dreams to the lands I go  
But the Symbols of venture are in  
my hands.

Nellie May Doran



Average 7 inches tall.  
Bell No. 557C, \$4.95



### EASTER BELLS

Carved bells from Bali  
Clacking in tone,  
Carving exotic,  
Color of bone.

Clappers are bamboo,  
"Legs"—as I live—  
Something to cherish,  
Nice choice to give.



Those intricately Carved Balinese bell dolls sure surprised me by ringing in rhyme. Zella Layton's Lucy Limpet and Miss Peachie are deserving of verse, but our space is wrong. May I say that the Limpet shell doll is so dainty in natural ivory or Easter tints, artistic, really a beauty! And Peachie is pretty beyond belief when one considers the snips and seeds of which she is fashioned. They're about 2½ inches tall.

Lucy with shell bouquet, No. 190L—\$2.95  
Peachie, she's a darling, No. 190P—\$1.50

### EASTER JEWELS

Crystal, Jet, Pearl, or any one of a dozen glowing jewel tones may be chosen for a delightful bead'n'button doll. Much expensive but discarded old jewelry has gone into the making of these precious trinkets—much artistry too. Heights vary from 3 to 4½ inches State preference or leave the selection to us. Priced to \$2.00 each; special, No. 199HN, \$1.00.

### EASTER FASHION

"Nellie"—ah, Nellie with "The Saucy Little Bird on Nellie's Hat!" She is so chic, so dainty and fascinatingly fashionable in the Gibson Girl get-up, that you'll love every detail from millinery to high heeled shoes. All hand-made, marcelled hair on her high glazed head, cameo brooch, chatelaine bag, and sh'enough, bird on her chapeau. And yet Nellie is only 4 inches tall! Verily choice things do come in small parcels. No. 63, \$3.95.



## EASTER BELLES FROM EUROPE, ASIA, SOUTH AMERICA



You can't beat the French for costume style, and when it is smart costume for collection dolls, provincial garments are by far most picturesque. Heavy celluloid Lili wears the high cap of Brittany, holiday apron over a richly trimmed full skirt and much gold braid trim on all garments. Golden hued wig, blue painted eyes, lovely complexioned, and yes, of course, Mademoiselle is imported from France. Ten inches tall, No. 509A, price \$8.50.



We are now taught that gals from Paraguay stack up mighty like those from Pennsylvania. Well, Nela does wear a "square dance" outfit except her feet are bare, but lipstick, mascara, rouge enhance her tan cloth complexion. She collects groceries in a head basket rather than in a chain-store buggy, and instead of a cigarette, that is a strong brown stogie in her libs. Eleven inches tall, No. 380A, \$7.50.

## PARAZADE OF OLD PERSIA

Beginning with a confession—we hoard—let's quickly follow with the alibi that long ago we invested in a quantity of these exotic, hand-made beauties of the Middle East. They had taken so long to secure; the fabrics are antique museum satins, gauze, brocade, some with threads of real gold or silver. Faces are stylized, painted on cloth, shoes soft leather in wine or blue-green. Every harem girl or richly clad lady is completely made by hand, no two alike. There's small hope of dolls like these again. No advance in price at Kimport.

No. 892C—Parazade 13 inches, \$17.50



Last time in this department we did some bragging about rare types, mechanicals and music making dolls for instance. These all were bespoken except one that is truly a precious collector item, the music box No. A462. Perhaps that was because we omitted the size which is 10x5½x3½ inches high for the box on wooden legs, with the dolls bringing that up to about 7 inches over all. For music box dolls that are presumed to predate the Revolutionary War, we thought this sweetly tuned old treasure to be truly a find. It was priced \$85.00—all right let's say less 10% since it was left behind—No. A462, \$76.50.

Then we mentioned antique woodens, but listed none, so here's about "Minnie May." She is a 10½ inch blockhead of around 1845, in splendid original condition. This was a crude type with egg-like head rather flat in back but a saucy nose in front; painting with rose pink cheeks, blue eyes, black hair, never retouched. Hands and feet I'd call whittled rather than carved; arms attached with leather, with a leather body section also between torso and legs. Perfect and apparently original hand-made clothes Miss M.M. is No. AB687, \$40.00.

Here's one that seldom appears for resale, a small size, 12½ inch Joel Ellis with both iron hands and feet intact. Original paint job too, but one cheek peeled some. She is a find; all of those ingenious hard maple joints working

perfectly except one stiff elbow. No. A584, \$75.00.

One larger, perhaps most popular size Joel Ellis rock maple doll from Vermont is missing both metal feet and one forearm. Iron right hand is perfect. Paint nearly all off showing detailed construction of features and vertical curls; patented joints all perfect. Fifteen inches—No. A133, \$45.00.

Very old (1820) Queen Ann type wooden miniature but minus both forearms and the legs. Was made into a doll penwiper more than a hundred years ago, showing deep shoulders and dear little head 2 inches around. Certainly a collector item, No. A909, \$20.00.

Another wooden collector item, should belong to some artist as it is one of those old "stand in" figures long used by portrait and figure painters for dependable, motionless holding of a pose. Twenty inches tall in absolutely perfect proportion, entirely hand-made and entirely fitted with pegs in all joints; doesn't seem to be a nail in the thing. Even the ankles and wrists are all swivel joints, as is also the waist line and throat, with socket type hips, knees, elbows and shoulders. The wood seems very old; it is all perfect except the front toes of one foot have been broken off. Toenails and finger nails even are carved. Yes, we would call it a doll even though specifically a model. Nude, of course, and really old as shown by the wood although we have no dating as it was simply found in an antique shop. No. A411, \$55.00.

Wooden, but not ancient as many of us can attest are the Schoenhuts. "Mitzi" is one of the more unusual members of this sturdy

wooden family with steel spring joints. She is a baby child, with curled, infant legs but human hair wig with bangs and short soft curls, this in a luminous red brown. Blue painted eyes; face tint original but perfect; body re-enamored for freshness. Sweetly dressed in nainsook with val insertion, matching bootees and bonnet. Fifteen inch size, trademarked, No. A632, \$28.50.

And then, Ladies and Gentleman, "The Greatest Show on Earth!" Well, anyway, we got in an old Schoenhut circus (non-political) Elephant and Donkey—but that's not all, there's a laughing hyena, a dappled show horse and a dromedary. They have glass eyes, are tautly strung and priced \$5.00 each. Three Clowns, 8 inch size but all different and in original suits, are \$7.50 each. Then there's a leering hobo and he must have been loved best because he is the only one that is marred. His face has been bumped around, but he's a gay Willie at that, rather than a weary one; also \$7.50. This totals \$55.00. We will hold up single orders a week or so to allow for somebody's wanting the group of nine at a special one shipment price of \$45.00.

Out of the Woods, and how about some ever favorite old glazed chinas and pretty bisques? It's a bit difficult to make the 1860 types of high-brow heads sound individual, but truly there are dozens from a variety of mold styles and sizes. Let's begin with one of the largest, a perfect old head 9 inches high and about 15 inches around. Her black hair, rosy cheeks bright blue eye coloring is delightful; the vertical curls sharp; rather

puffy around the eyes. Her 5½ inch china booted legs are antique and without chip or crack; the arms are replacement but excellent. Thirty-five inches tall, she would sit comfortably in a child's chair. The costume is one of the handsomest and all materials the approximate age of the doll—say Civil War era. Drawers and full necked petticoat are trimmed with hand knitted edging and insertion. The gown is made from a sage silk trousseau outfit, with lined overskirt trimmed in braid with ivory silk lace bertha, and so this gorgeous doll could be a bride as she pre-dates the vogue of always white for weddings. For a living room lovely, you couldn't go wrong on this richly decorative one, No. A644, \$125.00.

For contrast we'll zoom down to the smallest one of this same type, white china arms and legs, precious old high-brow head with toothpick size sausage curls, dark eyes—only 4 inches tall. The 1860 type head has such deep shoulders (mended) that the pretty head is 1¼ inch of that; this makes the complete doll of child proportions, which is correct as the face is not only pretty but really youthful. Dressed long ago in fine plaid silk over the daintiest of hand made lace trimmed petticoat and long pantaloons. No. A383, \$12.50.

Smallish middle size next, and especially choice is "Alice Anne," 13 inches tall and in pristine condition. Her aristocratic, 3½ inch head is of a creamy tint more nearly Beleek than the dead white of most chinas. From her very high forehead, jet curls drop in scalloped sequence to continue in long rope-like curls from neck to

almost the top of her head. The throat is slender; not a chipped finger on her slim original arms, not a crack in original old legs with their medium heel low shoes. Alice Anne's flannel petticoat looks like later vintage but her embroidered drawers and becoming print cotton dress might be as old as she is and that's right at a hundred years. No. A995. \$37.50.

For our next china here is a pink one, and with what seldom accompanies this "luster" type head, are matching pink tint arms with slender, cupped hands, definitely old and perfect! Brunette "Agatha" has beautifully modeled curls with the white line center part above her high brow; large blue eyes, coral pink lips with cheeks almost as deep in value as her mouth. Head size is 5 inches high, perfect with six holes for sewing it onto body, figure "8" on back. China legs are replacement, but good china ones with matt finish gray shoes edged and tasseled in red. Her height is 22 inches, circa 1875, and her costume of choicest old material. Richly decorative is chelsea pink Agatha. No. A724. \$59.00.

Two china heads only are next, for you who are what Laura Blackburn used to call "head hunters!" One beautiful quite large, early one has no markings on shoulders except inside the red, underglaze figure "34." Her hair is like a series of puffs from high temples down, coloring of cheeks delicate rose but carmen lips and blue eyes bright. Face is rather slender, 5½ inches high, 5 inches across deep shoulders. She wears a yellowed paper sticker dated 1937 on which is typed "Lucie' Prim and Sedate—75 yrs." and

that would date her 1862. Would make a wonderful doll; head No. A519. \$29.00.

The only blonde haired china offered this time is a child featured 5 inch chubby with tumbled curls. These are asymmetric or quite different on the two sides of center part. Ears show completely; lovely coloring and modeling, thin, high quality and all perfect except one "pock mark" only about  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch from lower shoulder edge; no crack or chip; 4 inches across.  
No. A369, also \$29.00.

Bisques are of many varieties, smooth French bisque, stone bisque, white bisque that approaches parian, but by far the majority are of that beloved flesh pink, the pretty, glass eyed ones that superseded glazed china. Little girl mammas were unmistakably partial to these curly wiggled, plump cheeked darlings with kid leather or jointed composition bodies. I speak from experience. Oh, there had been pink bisques for long, long before my day; even improved Jumeaus date back to the fifties in France.

Here are some like you, or your mother may have had. Twenty-five inch "Lucy Blue" has a perfect and very pretty head with big, dark blue eyes, brown, real hair, rather thick cloth and leather body. Just as she came to Kim-port in home made blue print frock, No. A610 is \$15.00. Horseshoe trademark on her perfect 6 inch head.

"Dorothy" is especially pretty with extra large blue (sleeping) eyes, pierced ears and smoothest, slender type head of light color bisque. This Hardwicke, swivel head is definitely of the better kind. Original pale blonde wig in

**DOLL TALK**

A magazine in miniature, published for doll enthusiasts. Issued about every eight weeks.

Subscription is \$1.00 for two years.

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**KIMPORT DOLLS**  
Independence, Mo.

fair condition. Tautly strung; swivel wrist hands unbroken, all in excellent condition, dressed in old "little girl" clothes. No. A174, jointed body "Dotty" is \$27.00.

Florodora (marked so) is certainly dressed up for Easter with such fetching details as chip straw chapeau, antique brown lace bertha on her yellow dress, and from her velvet belt a little leather chatelaine bag! Herself? Perfect—nice original bisque arms on clean kid body, ordinary brown wig, parted lips but real fur eyebrows, if you please, that interesting kind set into slits in the bisque. Twenty inches tall, No. A604, she is \$20.00.

Little, long faced "Cherrie" bears the Armand Marseille mark on the back of her swivel neck head. Her blue eyes, with lashes, still go to sleep; her original blonde bangs and curls are in good condition. Composition body is as smooth as the bisque of her head; has heeled slippers and pretty hands with spread fingers; joints only at hips and shoulders. Cherrie is an intriguing little character from New Jersey, who came to us, home dressed in silk embroidered baby flannel and muslin embroidery—quite odd and old-fashioned. Ten inches tall, perfect. No. A449, \$13.50

There are some darling baby dolls begging to be told about, a largest size Georgene Averill, a little Kestner, newborn A & M bisque and a nice big flirting eye—but she has earrings and lady body, so is a "grown up." There are some small and less expensive ones, white bisques that verge on parian but there will also be another Doll Talk with its S. of A. department.

One "quantity" item in closing, there are exactly twelve old German composition heads with sleeping eyes and mohair wigs. They're chubby cheeked and shouldered, all original paint, forty to fifty years old, but so far never have had bodies. I found them in a St. Louis doll hospital. Four inches high, three across, No. A2C, \$4.00.

**ANOTHER MILESTONE**

And our deep admiration and congratulations for the gallant celebration. Yes, Carrie A. Hall, long a name in dressmaker world, wrote on her Christmas card of the Birthday Tea celebrating her 85th. She is wonderful! Mrs. Hall, now of Nebraska, turned from lady costumes to doll sizes some years ago. Kimport features her Buffalo Bill as a state doll, all properly dressed in felt and leather (No. 104, \$15.00).

Mrs. Hall's "Hoopskirts to Nudity" is a profusely illustrated, freshly written volume of 229 pages. We highly recommend it as a costume guide that covers the era of a vast majority of antique dolls. Postpaid from Kimport (\$5.00).

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## CORRESPONDENCE CLIPPINGS

"In Sept.-Oct. Doll Talk I discovered a name of a great friend of my dear departed father. I certainly do want a copy of the book by him, Mr. Wilbur Macey Stone. As I remember, he collected old Valentines, too."

—Evelyn Hammersley, New York.

"I am delighted with the doll stands which I received from you. They hold the dolls securely and yet are light to 'transport,' as I give a 'doll talk' every week. I don't know why I delayed so long in ordering them.

—Marion G. Bender, Michigan.

"I always thought of a doll as cute, but I like these dolls you have been sending on Doll of the Month Plan and am seeing them in an entirely different way."

—Mrs. M. T. Ensign, Ohio.

"I exhibited my dolls to a women's group last night, for the first time. Everyone was so enthused over them and I would like to add more State Dolls to my collection."

"Do you have any extra scarecrows? I'd like another one. The one I have is most dusty from guarding my plants in the bay window."

—Mrs. Harold R. Rochon, Wis.

"I would like to keep my collection in smaller dolls about up to 8 inches tall. My husband is going to make some closed cabinets to hang on the wall in which to display them. Then if I want to

show them in a hobby show it will be a simple matter to just take the cabinets off the wall and 'show' the dolls in them.

"My folks had a bad fire when I was about ten years old so I do not have any of my own dolls left. I almost got in trouble with the fire department, trying to go into the burning house to rescue them."

—Mrs. Claude Arbogast, Illinois.

"Doll Talk" came this morning and I left the breakfast dishes to read it through at once!" There was an order for paper dolls, then—"I have a set or rather family of Hoods sarsaparilla dolls, papa, mamma, two girls, one blonde, one brunette and a little boy. I played with them as a child."—Gertrude G. Quandt, Wis.

"Mother and I have a lot of old dolls and my brother collects old toys and banks. My favorite sport is swimming; I came in first in the crawl and second in the back-stroke."—Muriel Petersen, Oregon.

"We started our collection two and a half years ago when my boy brought an Eskimo doll from Greenland to his little sister whom we had adopted while he was away. She is almost ten now and the doll collection has helped her find the security she needed so much."—Mrs. Beatrice Bean, N. H.

"I guess that nearly all of us doll admirers wish that we had a 'rich uncle' when we read about the fascinating dolls you offer in Doll Talk. I'm afraid I have too many cousins though even if there were a R. U.!"—Evelyn Gehman, New Jersey

"Perhaps you would like to know how I have become a doll collector. First, I had three healthy, noisy boys and then, I had polio. If that isn't enough to drive a woman to playing with dolls I don't know what is. They give me great moral support."

—Helen Barclay, Illinois.

"I ordered four stands and they did so much for my dolls that I just must have them for the rest, now. The 'Geisha Girl' arrived in excellent condition and she is lovely—my first Kimport Doll and also my first really 'foreign' one."—Mrs. L. D. Hurst, Iowa.

"It is quite exciting to receive a doll every month. I can hardly wait to see which doll the package contains. My teen age daughter says it's a bit like second childhood, but she, too, is curious and enthusiastic about this hobby."—Mrs. J. M. Brand, West Virginia.

"That truly wonderful Shoshone Dancer was too choice to just put with my Indian group. He glorifies the book shelves where our collection of dance books are grouped; to be exact, right beside Miss Ferber's fascinating book on the dances of our American Indians of the Southwest."

—Elizabeth Gunter, New York.

"The little antique you sent is not only completely charming in her own right, but she actually bears a resemblance to my late mother. I could not have been more thrilled with your package if you had sent me the crown jewels of Roumania!"

—Mrs. J. L. Garcia, Oklahoma.

"In cleaning my doll cabinet, I find that of my 208 dolls, almost half of them are from Kimport. I am proud of my collection and glad I started the hobby back in 1939."—Mrs. Arthur Downs, Calif.

"My first grade class saw a movie on 'Children of Holland' and discussed it later in connection with their unit on homes. I took my Dutch Jan and Micke to school and they loved them and some drew pictures of them."—Hazel Richards, Ohio.

"The dolls you have been sending are just wonderful, and I for one certainly appreciate the Doll of the Month Plan. At first, I think my friends sort of raised their eyebrows, but now they, too, look forward to those Kimport packages. Thank you again."—Mary M. Hurd, Idaho.

"The rawhide doll which I meant is Darrow's American patent (1866) and not the Martinique rawhide which is such a dark brown color."—Mrs. Greville Bathe, Florida.

"Recently I acquired a fashion girl, Jumeau, 21 inches tall. Each little kid toe is separate and wired; then her arms and hands are jointed wood, set into the kid shoulders. She wears her original clothes, black silk, and is adorable."—Mae Petersen, Oregon.

"The other day my son said, 'Mother, why don't you try to get a doll from every country in the world?' I would like to, but how would one know what one was getting? Kimport, I felt, was my best bet for dolls about 7 or 8 inches tall."—Mary W. Scott, Pa.

# Good Buy

One is rarely so gullible as to expect a bargain in this year of election, 1952, but truly here is A One! It all had something to do with good exchange for our blessed American dollars, with coming in ahead of some tariff boost and with good judgment (thank you) on our part in choosing samples.



The dolls about which we are bragging are a handsome young couple from the Krakow district in southwestern Poland. They have modeled cloth faces of ruddy complexion with big blue eyes and blonde floss hair that glistens. Excellent quality cloth bodies are jointed at hips and shoulders, red shoes on Marysia, red boot length ones on Maciek. Both wear snow white blouses, hers with huge puff sleeves above full skirt and apron. Maciek's four cornered cap, a favorite in their district, might be luckier than any four leaf clover — he IS in America, you know. They're a favorite size, 9", their Kimport numbers are 903 (boy) and 903A (girl) and here's the price — for really quite good imports — \$1.50 each, yes only \$3.00 the pair. We ordered more girls than boys for you who first build up by singles from each country. So, as we say "Good Bye" to these pretty Europeans, bet there'll come an echoing "Good Buy."

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## DOLL OF THE MONTH DIVIDENDS ARE NOW PAYING OFF

Scores of Kimport collectors have now received their free doll as promised on the completion of a year in this club. It's been exciting too, as their enthusiastic letters prove, receiving a surprise doll each month, and almost without exception they are starting the second round. . . . If you haven't joined this group, why not write now for an explanatory leaflet?

**YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE DOLL OF THE MONTH CLUB**

**KIMPORT DOLLS,** Independence, Mo.